



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1882.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Society's rooms, in Tremont Street, Boston, on Thursday, the thirteenth day of April, at 2 o'clock P. M. In the absence of the President, who had sailed for Europe on the 29th of March, the senior Vice-President, Dr. GEORGE E. ELLIS, occupied the chair.

The Recording Secretary *pro tempore* read the record of the previous meeting, and it was accepted.

The Librarian made the regular report of the donations to the Library during the month.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters accepting membership from Mr. Arthur B. Ellis and Professor John R. Seeley.

Mr. WINSOR offered the following order, which was referred to the Council with full powers: —

Ordered, That the Treasurer be requested to report to the Society, for printing in its Proceedings, a succinct historical sketch of the Society, which can also be annexed to the pamphlet containing the Act of Incorporation and By-laws, — the same to be sent to new members on their election.*

The Rev. Mr. PORTER read a letter and covenant by the St. Botolph Club of this city, in reference to the silver-gilt "loving cup" presented by Dr. Ellis: —

THE ST. BOTOLPH CLUB, 85 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON,
March 29, 1882.

MY DEAR SIR, — At a meeting of the St. Botolph Club, held on Saturday, 25th instant, it was

"*Voted*, That the President of the Club be, and he is hereby, authorized to execute in the name of the Club a declaration and covenant in acceptance of the gift of the Rev. George E. Ellis, the same to be duly entered on these records, and that a copy of said declaration and covenant, together with a copy of this vote, certified by the Secretary of the Club, be transmitted to the Massachusetts Historical Society through its Recording Secretary."

The gift referred to above is a silver-gilt loving cup, formerly the property of the Corporation of Boston, England. Fuller particu-

* The Council, at their meeting in June, adopted this order. — Eds.

lars regarding it, and the conditions upon which it is now held by this Club, appear in the covenant, a certified copy of which is herewith enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

T. R. SULLIVAN,

Secretary of the St. Botolph Club.

The Recording Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

THE ST. BOTOLPH CLUB, 85 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON.

Whereas, George E. Ellis, of Boston, has given to this Club, as appears by his letter of Feb. 22, 1882, entered on these records, a silver-gilt cup with cover, inscribed with the crest and coat-of-arms of the Corporation of Boston, Lincolnshire, England, and with the name and date as follows: "Richard Bell, Mayor, 1745"; and has prescribed as a condition of the bestowal and acceptance of said gift the following covenant, to be entered on the records of the Club:—

That, if ever the Club shall be disbanded, or its assets dispersed, the cup shall revert to the Massachusetts Historical Society; and further, *That* a certified copy of said covenant shall be sent to the Recording Secretary of said Society.

Now therefore, in acceptance of said gift, and in compliance with the conditions thereto annexed, it is hereby declared, covenanted, and agreed, that this Club receives and holds said gift in acceptance of and compliance with the conditions aforesaid, to the performance of which it hereby binds itself, its representatives, and successors.

In witness whereof it has caused these presents to be signed by its President, thereto duly authorized, this twenty-fifth day of March, A. D. 1882.

[Signed]

FRANCIS PARKMAN,

President St. Botolph Club.

Attest:

T. R. SULLIVAN, *Secretary.*

The VICE-PRESIDENT then announced the death of Mr. Longfellow, as follows:—

Much to our regret we miss our honored President from his chair to-day, on this, the ninety-first annual meeting of the Society. It is gratifying to be assured that he has safely reached the other side of the ocean, and may be looked for with us again early in the autumn. It will be remembered that in opening the last meeting he expressed for us all the relief which he found in not being called upon, as in such rapid and melancholy succession he had been at so many previous meetings, to announce a loss from our limited roll of associates. But again must there be stricken from it the name of one who leaves upon the list no other so enshrined

in the affection, the grateful homage, we may even say the venerating regard of the world-wide fellowship of civilized humanity.

On the announcement to our deeply moved community of the death of Mr. Longfellow, though I had taken leave of Mr. Winthrop near the eve of his departure, I wrote to him asking that he would commit to me, to be read here and now, what he would himself have said if he were to be with us to-day. In his brief note of reply he writes, "How gladly would I comply with your suggestion, and send you, for the next meeting of our Society, some little tribute to our lamented Longfellow. But at this last hurried moment before leaving home, I could do justice neither to him nor to myself. I was just going out to bid him good-by, when his serious illness was announced, and in a day or two more all was over. The last time he was in Europe I was there with him, and I was a witness to not a few of the honors which he received from high and low. I remember particularly that when we were coming away from the House of Lords together, where we had been hearing a fine speech from his friend the Duke of Argyll, a group of the common people gathered around our carriage, calling him by name, begging to touch his hand, and at least one of them reciting aloud one of his most familiar poems. No poet of our day has touched the common heart like Longfellow. The simplicity and purity of his style were a part of his own character. He had nothing of that irritability which is one of the proverbial elements of the poetic temperament, but was always genial, generous, lovely." I will not attempt to add anything, as tribute, to that heart utterance from our President. Indeed, it would be difficult to find variations in the terms of language even, much more in the sentiments to be expressed by them, in tributes of tender and appreciative regard and affection for Mr. Longfellow. Full and profound in depth and earnestness have been the honors to him in speech and print; richer still, because unutterable, and only for the privacy of those who cherish them, are the responsive silences of the heart.

It is fitting, however, that we put on record our recognition of Mr. Longfellow in his relations to this Society. He accepted the membership to which he had been elected in December, 1857. Those who were associates in it twenty-five years ago will recall two signal occasions delightfully associated with his presence and speech. The one was a special meeting, to which he invited the Society at his own residence, as Washington's head-quarters, in Cambridge, on

June 17, 1858. There was much of charming and instructive interest in the scenes and associations of the occasion, added to the communications made by several members full of historic information freshly related from original sources. The host himself was silent, save as by his genial greeting and warm hospitality he welcomed his grateful guests. The other marked occasion was also at a special meeting of the Society, held in December, 1859, at the house of our associate, Mr. Sears. The meeting was devoted to tributes of respect and affection for Washington Irving, from many who had shared his most intimate friendship. Mr. Longfellow gave hearty and delicate expression to his regard for Irving, while Everett, Felton, Colonel Aspinwall, G. Sumner, and Dr. Holmes contributed their offerings to the memory of that admired author. But few of our associates, in its nearly a century of years, can have studied our local and even national history more sedulously than did Mr. Longfellow. And but fewer still among us can have found in its stern and rugged and homely actors and annals so much that could be graced and softened by rich and delicate fancies, by refining sentiments, and the hues and fragrance of simple poetry. He took the saddest of our New England tragedies, and the sweetest of its rural home scenes, the wayside inn, the alarm of war, the Indian legend, and the hanging of the crane in the modest household, and his genius has invested them with enduring charms and morals. Wise and gentle was the heart which could thus find melodies for the harp, the lyre, and the plectrum in our fields and wildernesses, wreathing them as nature does the thickets and stumps of the forest with flowers and mosses. While all his utterances came from a pure, a tender, and a devout heart, addressing themselves to what is of like in other hearts, there is not in them a line of morbidity, of depression, or melancholy, but only that which quickens and cheers with robust resolve and courage, with peace and aspiring trust. He has, indeed, used freely the poet's license in playful freedom with dates and facts. But the scenes and incidents and personages which most need a softening and refining touch, receive it from him without prejudice to the service of sober history.

Dr. ELLIS closed his remarks by offering the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That in yielding from our roll the name of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, we would put on our records the

expression of our profoundest regard, esteem, and admiring appreciation of his character and genius, and our grateful sense of the honor and satisfaction we have shared in his companionship.

The Resolution was seconded by Dr. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, who addressed the Society with much feeling, as follows:—

It is with no vain lamentations, but rather with profound gratitude that we follow the soul of our much-loved and long-loved poet beyond the confines of the world he helped so largely to make beautiful. We could have wished to keep him longer, but at least we were spared witnessing the inevitable shadows of an old age protracted too far beyond its natural limits. From the first notes of his fluent and harmonious song to the last, which comes to us as the “voice fell like a falling star,” there has never been a discord. The music of the mountain stream, in the poem which reaches us from the other shore of being, is as clear and sweet as the melodies of the youthful and middle periods of his minstrelsy. It has been a fully rounded life, beginning early with large promise, equalling every anticipation in its maturity, fertile and beautiful to its close in the ripeness of its well-filled years.

Until the silence fell upon us we did not entirely appreciate how largely his voice was repeated in the echoes of our own hearts. The affluence of his production so accustomed us to look for a poem from him at short intervals that we could hardly feel how precious that was which was so abundant. Not, of course, that every single poem reached the standard of the highest among them all. That could not be in Homer's time, and mortals must occasionally nod now as then. But the hand of the artist shows itself unmistakably in everything which left his desk. The O of Giotto could not help being a perfect round, and the verse of Longfellow is always perfect in construction.

He worked in that simple and natural way which characterizes the master. But it is one thing to be simple through poverty of intellect, and another thing to be simple by repression of all redundancy and overstatement; one thing to be natural through ignorance of all rules, and another to have made a second nature out of the sovereign rules of art. In respect of this simplicity and naturalness, his style is in strong contrast to that of many writers of our time. There is no

straining for effect, there is no torturing of rhythm for novel patterns, no wearisome iteration of petted words, no inelegant clipping of syllables to meet the exigencies of a verse; no affected archaism, rarely any liberty taken with language, unless it may be in the form of a few words in the translation of Dante. I will not except from these remarks the singular and original form which he gave to his poem of "Hiawatha," — a poem with a curious history in many respects. Suddenly and immensely popular in this country, greatly admired by many foreign critics, imitated with perfect ease by any clever schoolboy, serving as a model for metrical advertisements, made fun of, sneered at, abused, admired, but, at any rate, a picture full of pleasing fancies and melodious cadences. The very names are jewels which the most fastidious muse might be proud to wear. Coming from the realm of the Androscoggin and of Moosetukmaguntuk, how could he have found two such delicious names as Hiawatha and Minnehaha? The eight-syllable trochaic verse of "Hiawatha," like the eight-syllable iambic verse of "The Lady of the Lake," and others of Scott's poems, has a fatal facility, which I have elsewhere endeavored to explain on physiological principles. The recital of each line uses up the air of one natural expiration, so that we read, as we naturally do, eighteen or twenty lines in a minute, without disturbing the normal rhythm of breathing, which is also eighteen or twenty breaths to the minute. The standing objection to this is, that it makes the octo-syllabic verse too easy writing and too slipshod reading. Yet in this most frequently criticised composition the poet has shown a subtle sense of the requirements of his simple story of a primitive race, in choosing the most fluid of measures, that lets the thought run through it in easy sing-song, such as oral tradition would be sure to find on the lips of the story-tellers of the wigwam. Although Longfellow was not fond of metrical contortions and acrobatic achievements, he well knew the effects of skilful variation in the forms of verse and well-managed refrains or repetitions. In one of his very earliest poems, — "Pleasant it was when Woods were Green," — the dropping a syllable from the last line is an agreeable surprise to the ear, expecting only the common monotony of scrupulously balanced lines. In "Excelsior" the repetition of the aspiring exclamation which gives its name to the poem, lifts every stanza a step higher than the one which preceded it. In the "Old Clock on the Stair," the solemn words, "Forever, never, never, forever," give wonderful effectiveness to that most impressive poem.

All his art, all his learning, all his melody, cannot account for his extraordinary popularity, not only among his own countrymen and those who in other lands speak the language in which he wrote, but in foreign realms, where he could only be read through the ground glass of a translation. It was in his choice of subjects that one source of the public favor with which his writings, more especially his poems, were received, obviously lay. A poem, to be widely popular, must deal with thoughts and emotions that belong to common, not exceptional character, conditions, interests. The most popular of all books are those which meet the spiritual needs of mankind most powerfully, such works as "The Imitation of Christ" and "Pilgrim's Progress." I suppose if the great multitude of readers were to render a decision as to which of Longfellow's poems they most valued, the "Psalm of Life" would command the largest number. This is a brief homily enforcing the great truths of duty, and of our relation to the unseen world. Next in order would very probably come "Excelsior," a poem that springs upward like a flame and carries the soul up with it in its aspiration for the unattainable ideal. If this sounds like a trumpet-call to the fiery energies of youth, not less does the still small voice of that most sweet and tender poem, "Resignation," appeal to the sensibilities of those who have lived long enough to have known the bitterness of such a bereavement as that out of which grew the poem. Or take a poem before referred to, "The Old Clock on the Stair," and in it we find the history of innumerable households told in relating the history of one, and the solemn burden of the song repeats itself to thousands of listening readers, as if the beat of the pendulum were throbbing at the head of every staircase. Such poems as these — and there are many more of not unlike character — are the foundation of that universal acceptance his writings obtain among all classes. But for these appeals to universal sentiment, his readers would have been confined to a comparatively small circle of educated and refined readers. There are thousands and tens of thousands who are familiar with what we might call his household poems, who have never read "The Spanish Student," "The Golden Legend," "Hiawatha," or even "Evangeline." Again, ask the first schoolboy you meet which of Longfellow's poems he likes best, and he will be very likely to answer, "Paul Revere's Ride." When he is a few years older he might perhaps say, "The Building of the Ship," that admirably constructed poem, beginning with the literal description, passing into the higher region of sentiment by the most natural of transitions, and ending with the noble climax, —

“Thou, too, sail on, O ship of state,”

which has become the classical expression of patriotic emotion.

Nothing lasts like a coin and a lyric. Long after the dwellings of men have disappeared, when their temples are in ruins and all their works of art are shattered, the ploughman strikes an earthen vessel holding the golden and silver disks, on which the features of a dead monarch, with emblems, it may be, betraying the beliefs or the manners, the rudeness or the finish of art and all which this implies, survive an extinct civilization. Pope has expressed this with his usual Horatian felicity, in the letter to Addison, on the publication of his little “Treatise on Coins,” —

“A small Euphrates through the piece is rolled,
And little eagles wave their wings in gold.”

Conquerors and conquered sink in common oblivion; triumphal arches, pageants the world wonders at, all that trumpeted itself as destined to an earthly immortality, pass away; the victor of a hundred battles is dust; the parchments or papyrus on which his deeds were written are shrivelled and decayed and gone, —

“And all his triumphs shrink into a coin.”

So it is with a lyric poem. One happy utterance of some emotion or expression, which comes home to all, may keep a name remembered when the race to which the singer belonged is lost sight of. The cradle-song of Danaë to her infant as they tossed on the waves in the imprisoning chest, has made the name of Simonides immortal. Our own English literature abounds with instances which illustrate the same fact so far as the experience of a few generations extends. And I think we may venture to say that some of the shorter poems of Longfellow must surely reach a remote posterity, and be considered then, as now, ornaments to English literature. We may compare them with the best short poems of the language without fearing that they will suffer. Scott, cheerful, wholesome, unreflective, should be read in the open air; Byron, the poet of malcontents and cynics, in a prison cell; Burns, generous, impassioned, manly, social, in the tavern hall; Moore, elegant, fastidious, full of melody, scented with the volatile perfume of the Eastern gardens, in which his fancy revelled, is pre-eminently the poet of the drawing-room and the piano; Longfellow, thoughtful, musical, home-loving, busy with the lessons of life, which he was ever studying, and loved to teach

others, finds his charmed circle of listeners by the fireside. His songs, which we might almost call sacred ones, rarely if ever get into the hymn-books. They are too broadly human to suit the specialized tastes of the sects, which often think more of their differences from each other than of the common ground on which they can agree. Shall we think less of our poet because he so frequently aimed in his verse not simply to please, but also to impress some elevating thought on the minds of his readers? The Psalms of King David are burning with religious devotion and full of weighty counsel, but they are not less valued, certainly, than the poems of Omar Khayam, which cannot be accused of too great a tendency to find a useful lesson in their subject. Dennis, the famous critic, found fault with the "Rape of the Lock" because it had no moral. It is not necessary that a poem should carry a moral, any more than that a picture of a Madonna should always be an altar-piece. The poet himself is the best judge of that in each particular case. In that charming little poem of Wordsworth's, ending, —

"And then my heart with rapture thrills
And dances with the daffodils."

we do not ask for anything more than the record of the impression which is told so simply, and which justifies itself by the way in which it is told. But who does not feel with the poet that the touching story, "Hartleap Well," must have its lesson brought out distinctly, to give a fitting close to the narrative? Who would omit those two lines? —

"Never to blend our pleasure or our pride
With sorrow of the meanest thing that lives."

No poet knew better than Longfellow how to impress a moral without seeming to preach. Didactic verse, as such, is, no doubt, a formidable visitation, but a cathedral has its lesson to teach as well as a schoolhouse. These beautiful medallions of verse which Longfellow has left us might possibly be found fault with as conveying too much useful and elevating truth in their legends; having the unartistic aim of being serviceable as well as delighting by their beauty. Let us leave such comment to the critics who cannot handle a golden coin, fresh from the royal mint, without clipping its edges and stamping their own initials on its face.

Of the longer poems of our chief singer, I should not hesitate to select "Evangeline" as the masterpiece, and I think the general verdict of opinion would confirm my choice. The

German model which it follows in its measure and the character of its story was itself suggested by an earlier idyl. If Dorothea was the mother of Evangeline, Luise was the mother of Dorothea. And what a beautiful creation is the Acadian maiden! From the first line of the poem, from its first words, we read as we would float down a broad and placid river, murmuring softly against its banks, heaven over it, and the glory of the unspoiled wilderness all around,—

“This is the forest primeval.”

The words are already as familiar as

“Μῆνιν ἄειδε, θεά.”

or

“Arma virumque cano.”

The hexameter has been often criticised, but I do not believe any other measure could have told that lovely story with such effect, as we feel when carried along the tranquil current of these brimming, slow-moving, soul-satisfying lines. Imagine for one moment a story like this minced into octosyllabics. The poet knows better than his critics the length of step which best befits his muse.

I will not take up your time with any further remarks upon writings so well known to all. By the poem I have last mentioned, and by his lyrics, or shorter poems, I think the name of Longfellow will be longest remembered. Whatever he wrote, whether in prose or poetry, bore always the marks of the finest scholarship, the purest taste, fertile imagination, a sense of the music of words, and a skill in bringing it out of our English tongue, which hardly more than one of his contemporaries who write in that language can be said to equal.

The saying of Buffon, that the style is the man himself, or of the man himself, as some versions have it, was never truer than in the case of our beloved poet. Let us understand by style all that gives individuality to the expression of a writer; and in the subjects, the handling, the spirit and aim of his poems, we see the reflex of a personal character which made him worthy of that almost unparalleled homage which crowned his noble life. Such a funeral procession as attended him in thought to his resting-place has never joined the train of mourners that followed the hearse of a poet,—could we not say of any private citizen? And we all feel that no tribute could be too generous, too universal, to the

union of a divine gift with one of the loveliest of human characters.

Dr. Holmes was followed by Professor CHARLES E. NORTON, who said : —

I could wish that this were a silent meeting. There is no need of formal commemorative speech to-day, for all the people of the land, the whole English-speaking race, — and not they alone, — mourn our friend and poet. Never was poet so mourned, for never was poet so beloved.

There is nothing of lamentation in our mourning. He has not been untimely taken. His life was “prolonged with many years, happy and famous.” Death came to him in good season, or ever the golden bowl was broken, or the pitcher broken at the cistern. Desire had but lately failed. Life was fair to him almost to its end. On his seventy-fourth birthday, a little more than a year ago, with his family and a few friends round his dinner table, he said, “There seems to me a mistake in the order of the years: I can hardly believe that the four should not precede the seven.” But in the year that followed he experienced the pains and languor and weariness of age. There was no complaint — the sweetness of his nature was invincible.

On one of the last times that I saw him, as I entered his familiar study on a beautiful afternoon of this past winter, I said to him, “I hope this is a good day for you?” He replied, with a pleasant smile, “Ah! there are no good days now.” Happily, the evil days were not to be many.

The accord between the character and life of Mr. Longfellow and his poems was complete. His poetry touched the hearts of his readers because it was the sincere expression of his own. The sweetness, the gentleness, the grace, the purity of his verse were the image of his own soul. But beautiful and ample as this expression of himself was, it fell short of the truth. The man was more and better than the poet.

Intimate, however, as was the concord between the poet and his poetry, there was much in him to which he never gave utterance in words. He was a man of deep reserves. He kept the holy of holies within himself inviolable and secluded. Seldom does he admit his readers even to its outward precincts. The deepest experiences of life are not to be shared with any one whatsoever. “There are things of which I may not speak,” he says in one of the most personal of his poems.

“ Whose hand shall dare to open and explore
Those volumes closed and clasped forevermore?
Not mine. With reverential feet I pass.”

It was the felicity of Mr. Longfellow to share the sentiment and emotion of his coevals, and to succeed in giving to them their apt poetic expression. It was not by depth of thought or by original views of nature that he won his place in the world's regard ; but it was by sympathy with the feelings common to good men and women everywhere, and by the simple, direct, sincere, and delicate expression of them, that he gained the affection of mankind.

He was fortunate in the time of his birth. He grew up in the morning of our republic. He shared in the cheerfulness of the early hour, in its hopefulness, its confidence. The years of his youth and early manhood coincided with an exceptional moment of national life, in which a prosperous and unembarrassed democracy was learning its own capacities, and was beginning to realize its large and novel resources ; in which the order of society was still simple and humane. He became, more than any one else, the voice of this epoch of national progress, an epoch of unexampled prosperity for the masses of mankind in our new world, prosperity from which sprang a sense, more general and deeper than had ever before been felt, of human kindness and brotherhood. But, even to the prosperous, life brings its inevitable burden. Trial, sorrow, misfortune, are not to be escaped by the happiest of men. The deepest experiences of each individual are the experiences common to the whole race. And it is this double aspect of American life—its novel and happy conditions, with the genial spirit resulting from them, and, at the same time, its subjection to the old, absolute, universal laws of existence—that finds its mirror and manifestation in Longfellow's poetry.

No one can read his poetry without a conviction of the simplicity, tenderness, and humanity of the poet. And we who were his friends know how these qualities shone in his daily conversation. Praise, applause, flattery, — and no man ever was exposed to more of them, — never touched him to harm him. He walked through their flames unscathed, as Dante through the fires of purgatory. His modesty was perfect. He accepted the praise as he would have accepted any other pleasant gift, — glad of it as an expression of good-will, but without personal elation. Indeed, he had too much of it, and often in an absurd form, not to become at times weary of what

his own fame and virtues brought upon him. But his kindness did not permit him to show his weariness to those who did but burden him with their admiration. It was the penalty of his genius, and he accepted it with the pleasantest temper and a humorous resignation. Bores of all nations, especially of our own, persecuted him. His long-suffering patience was a wonder to his friends. It was, in truth, the sweetest charity. No man was ever before so kind to these moral mendicants. One day I ventured to remonstrate with him on his endurance of the persecutions of one of the worst of the class, who to lack of modesty added lack of honesty, — a wretched creature, — and when I had done, he looked at me with an amused expression, and half deprecatingly replied, “But, Charles, who would be kind to him if I were not?” It was enough. He was helped by a gift of humor, which, though seldom displayed in his poems, lighted up his talk and added a charm to his intercourse. He was the most gracious of men in his own home; he was fond of the society of his friends, and the company that gathered in his study or round his table took its tone from his own genial, liberal, cultivated, and refined nature.

“With loving breath of all the winds his name
Is blown about the world; but to his friends
A sweeter secret hides behind his fame,
And love steals shyly through the loud acclaim
To murmur a *God bless you!* and there ends.”

His verse, his fame, are henceforth the precious possessions of the people whom he loved so well. They will be among the effective instruments in shaping the future character of the nation. His spirit will continue to soften, to refine, to elevate the hearts of men. He will be the beloved friend of future generations as he has been of his own. His desire will be gratified: —

“And in your life let my remembrance linger,
As something not to trouble and disturb it,
But to complete it, adding life to life.
And if at times beside the evening fire
You see my face among the other faces,
Let it not be regarded as a ghost
That haunts your house, but as a guest that loves you,
Nay, even as one of your own family,
Without whose presence there were something wanting.
I have no more to say.”

Mr. WILLIAM EVERETT spoke with much force of the pre-eminent gifts of Mr. Longfellow, and, although not given to

comparisons, he could not help putting his "Ship of State" alongside of Horace's passionate burst of song beginning "O navis!" After reciting the two, Mr. Everett declared that our singer had encountered the greatest lyric poet of Rome on his own ground, and, grappling with him, had fairly thrown him.

The Resolution was unanimously adopted by a standing vote.

The VICE-PRESIDENT spoke of the death of a Corresponding Member, the Hon. Zachariah Allen : —

Since our last meeting we have lost from the roll of our Corresponding Members a venerable and much-respected man, the Hon. Zachariah Allen, LL.D., of Providence. He died in his eighty-seventh year, on the 17th of last month, in the city of his birth and residence. He was born Sept. 15, 1795. He was President of the Rhode Island Historical Society ; and his long and most useful life, his family connections, the strong regard cherished for his upright and attractive character, and his many distinguished public services have made him for several years to be looked upon as the most prominent historical and representative person in his State. On his mother's side he was a descendant of Gabriel Bernon, one of the most respected and distinguished of the Huguenots driven from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, who came to Boston in 1688, and made a settlement in this State at Oxford. Mr. Allen graduated in 1813 from Brown University, of which institution he was for very many years one of the trustees. He studied both law and medicine. His genius, his versatility of talents, his mechanical skill, and his comprehensive scientific tastes and attainments were at first given to advance the manufacturing industry and development of his prosperous State. Many ingenious, economical, and useful inventions and appliances came from his active brain, showing his scientific skill in the originating, increasing, and applying motive power in steam and other machinery. His volumes on abstract and applied science are numerous and of great practical use. He ingeniously calculated the mechanical force of the fall at Niagara as equal to seven millions of horse-power. The State, and especially the city of his birth and home, is indebted to him for very many of its most prized institutions, improvements, and public works. He was a generous adviser and benefactor of all educational, charitable, and religious efforts for all classes of the community. More than all, he

drew to himself the profoundest regard and respect, and the warmest attachment of all who knew him, and in proportion to their intimacy, for the modest elevation, dignity, and purity of his character, for his simple habits and manner of life, for his delicate, old-school courtesy and urbanity. Some of us have been privileged to see and know him in his home, which he made so genial in its hospitalities. He had a peaceful and sudden release in hardly impaired vigor, after a blameless, useful, and Christian life.

Mr. WINSOR reported, for the committee on the Trumbull Papers, that their sphere in some instances conflicted with that of another committee, appointed on the Washington Letters.

Voted, That this matter be referred to the two committees to be adjusted between themselves.

Colonel T. W. HIGGINSON presented to the Society an autograph letter from John C. Calhoun, written to Colonel Theodore Lyman of Boston, near the end of the first term of Calhoun's vice-presidency. He remarked that the letter was especially interesting, as containing a frank and full autobiographical sketch, in which Mr. Calhoun defined his political principles and described his own career, especially disavowing all sectional or local bias. It had also a peculiar interest, just at this time, from its bearing on the controversy between the partisans of Adams and of Jackson, just recalled to our attention through the admirable memoir of John Quincy Adams, by our associate, Mr. J. T. Morse, Jr. It must be remembered that at the presidential election of 1824 the electoral vote was divided between four candidates, who were arranged in the following order, namely: Messrs. Jackson (99), Adams (84), Crawford (41), and Clay (37). Mr. Calhoun, who had withdrawn from the contest for the presidency, was chosen Vice-President almost unanimously. Through the aid of Mr. Clay's supporters, Mr. Adams was chosen President by the House of Representatives at the first ballot, the vote standing thus: Adams (13 States), Jackson (7), Crawford (4). Immediately upon his inauguration, Mr. Adams made Mr. Clay his Secretary of State, and there were at once loud charges of bargains and corruption and "infamous coalition." Mr. Morse, in his Memoir, not only shows that these charges had no foundation, — which is now generally admitted, — but maintains that no man of prominence, except General Jack-

son, ever believed them. It is, however, evident from this letter that Mr. Calhoun believed them heartily ; and that after being three years Vice-President under Mr. Adams, there was still a bitterness on the subject in his mind. The letter, therefore, has a bearing on one of the most important points in the political history of that period.

PENDLETON, 8 September, 1828.

DEAR SIR,—I have been favored with your kind letter of the 11th August, and have seized on the first leisure to comply with your request.

I was born in Abbeville District (or county) in this State, and received my academical education under Dr. Moses Waddel, now President of the University of Georgia. My collegiate education was received at Yale College, and my legal at Litchfield, under Judge Reeve. The year I was admitted to the bar I was elected a member of our State Legislature, where I served two sessions, when I was elected a member of Congress. I took my seat in that body in the session of 1811–12, known as the session which declared the late war against Great Britain. From that to the present day I have been in the service of the nation without interruption.

I do not intend to enter into a consideration of my motives and acts while in the public employment. Your letter does not request it, and I feel no disposition to do so ; but I trust that I may be permitted to remark that two objects have incessantly occupied my attention,—to preserve the republican principles of our government in their purity, and to rear up by all the means delegated by the Constitution, and which could be exercised consistently with the first and what I consider the controlling object, our country to the highest point of prosperity and honor. In any situation and in any act I am willing that my whole life should be tested by these objects. They have controlled me throughout without bias in favor of any local or partial interest, or regard to personal advancement.

I rejoice to hear that our party, though small, are firm and active in old Massachusetts. I would feel but little interest in this great contest were it really a struggle between Mr. Adams and General Jackson simply, without involving what I deem vital principles in our system ; but regarding it, as I do, as a struggle which involves the purity and duration of our system, I look on its progress with that deep interest which not to feel, with my conception of its character, would be criminal. I felt kindly disposed before the election towards both General Jackson and Mr. Adams. I thought they placed their election on fair national grounds. I had a right to calculate on the friendship of both, and as far as personal ambition could have influence, the position of Mr. Adams was more favorable to me than that of the General. I had then my reason to deplore his course, whatever may have been his motives for adopting it. I did think that considering the friendly relation between him and General Jackson, seeing that he could not

succeed without forming a coalition with one who stood in so different a relation, a coalition forming a most dangerous precedent, and which must in its consequences distract the country for years, he ought to have yielded to his more powerful rival and remained in his place with the almost certain prospect of reaching the high station which he now occupies in a manner honorable to himself and useful to the nation. He thought otherwise, and the consequences are such as we see.

I wish you success in the new paper. The talent and energy of Boston are sufficient to give a mighty influence to the press. My political reflections you will of course understand are for yourself. With sincere regard, I am, &c., &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

T. LYMAN, Esq.

Mr. GEORGE B. CHASE, alluding to a pamphlet report of Daniel Webster's libel suit against Mayor Lyman, recently sold at auction, spoke as follows:—

The newspaper to which Mr. Calhoun wished success, in the letter just read by Colonel Higginson, was the "Jackson Republican," a campaign journal, then recently established in Boston by Theodore Lyman, Jr., and others, in aid of General Jackson's election to the presidency. A semi-weekly paper, its first number appeared Aug. 9, 1828. Its last issue, on the 28th of December in the same year, announced its union with the "Evening Bulletin," and the continuance of both journals, as one newspaper, under the title of the "United States Republican." The subsequent career of the latter journal I have not attempted to trace.

The forty-two numbers of the "Jackson Republican" have a certain interest to students of our newspaper history as the exponent of the views of those gentlemen of Federalist antecedents, whose bitter hostility to John Quincy Adams led them into a cordial support of Andrew Jackson. Conspicuous among these enemies of Mr. Adams was Mr. Theodore Lyman, Jr., afterward Mayor of Boston, in 1835, who will, however, be longest remembered by his great benevolence, and by the large sums given in his life and bequeathed in his will to public charities.* By his energy the "Jackson Republican" was established, and by his vigorous pen its columns

* Mr. Lyman had been a supporter of Crawford, and afterward of Jackson, for the Presidency. He was, at this time, the leader of the "Silk Stocking" wing of the Democratic party in Massachusetts. Dissatisfied afterward with the tendencies of Van Buren's administration, he became a Whig. See the New England Genealogical Society's "Memorial Biographies," vol. i. pp. 169-198, for a memoir of him by his son.

were constantly strengthened. Published by Putnam & Hunt, the principal direction of the paper was intrusted to Judge Henry Orne. Its brief existence would now only give it an interest to specialists in our history, were it not for an article from the pen of Mr. Lyman, designed to attack Mr. Adams.

The publication of Mr. Jefferson's historic letter to Mr. Giles, revealing the communication made by Mr. Adams to President Jefferson concerning the embargo act of 1807, and President Adams's explanation of that interview, reached Boston in the last week of October, 1828. Availing itself of the excitement these disclosures created, the "Jackson Republican" of October 29 appeared with a pungent commentary upon the conduct of Mr. Adams. That part of it which Mr. Webster unluckily thought a libel upon himself is contained in these sentences:—

"The reader will observe that Mr. Adams distinctly asserts that Harrison Gray Otis, Samuel Dexter, William Prescott, Daniel Webster, Elijah Mills, Israel Thorndike, Josiah Quincy, Benjamin Russell, John Wells, and others of the Federal party of their age and standing, were engaged in a plot to dissolve the Union and reannex New England to Great Britain, and that he possessed unequivocal evidence of that most solemn design. . . .

"We here beg to ask why Mr. Adams's statement has been withheld from the public eye more than a year; why it has been published only one fortnight before the election for President all over the country; why, for three years, he has held to his bosom, as a political counsellor, Daniel Webster, a man whom he called in his midnight denunciation a traitor in 1808. . . .

"And, as the last question, why, during the visits he has made to Boston, he always met on friendly, intimate, and social terms all the gentlemen whose names, a few years before, he placed upon a secret record in the archives of the government as traitors to their country."

Mr. Webster was at that time in Boston, and a few hours after the article appeared went to State Street, as was his wont, and stopped to see his friends, as they came upon 'change, at the office of the old Suffolk Insurance Company, then at the easterly corner of State and Congress Streets. Many of the leading merchants of those days met daily at the Suffolk; John T. Apthorp was its President; and the well-known names of Belknap, Cabot, Hubbard, Silsbee, Boott, Lyman, and others appeared in its directory. Here, it seems, some indignant supporter showed Mr. Webster the audacious commentary. Going into other offices, he was again spoken to upon the subject. Meeting Major Ben. Russell soon after, who inquired if the article did not contain a libel, Mr.

Webster replied that he should try and make it so. On the 31st of October he consulted his friends, Charles P. Curtis and Richard Fletcher, who at once wrote Putnam & Hunt, demanding the writer's name. The prompt reply, signed by Henry Orne and Theodore Lyman, Jr., gave the name of Mr. Lyman as the writer of the article specified. No explanation of the writer's intent was sought of Mr. Lyman, nor opening given for the natural and obvious explanation of his commentary, but the newspaper containing it was, ten days later, laid before the grand jury, and an indictment of singular severity obtained. The case was then pushed for trial in the Supreme Court, where it occurred before Chief Justice Parker and a jury on the 16th and 17th of December, 1828. Mr. Davis, Solicitor-General, appeared for the government; and Samuel Hubbard and Franklin Dexter, both then eminent at the bar, for the defendant. Exceeding interest was created in advance of the trial, for it seems to have been well understood that it would lead to important disclosures concerning the conduct and motives of political leaders in 1808. The scant time allowed for preparation prevented the defence from an attempt in such direction. A motion to continue the case, so as to obtain the testimony of President Adams after his return to private life in the ensuing spring, was overruled.

The substance of the evidence for the prosecution, in the words of a contemporary journal,* was that Mr. Webster came to Boston in 1816; that he knew the other persons named in the libellous publication as boys know men; that he never entered into any plot to dissolve the Union; and that he had waited twelve or more days for an explanation. The defence set up that the publication was not libellous; that the language itself, taken in connection with the accompanying evidence, would not warrant the conclusion that the publication was intended to injure Mr. Webster's reputation; that Mr. Jefferson's letter and President Adams's explanation were authentic; that Mr. Webster was in 1808 an active Federalist, earnest in opposition to the embargo, his own pamphlet on the subject being admitted.

The charge of the Chief Justice was fatal to the government's case, holding upon the first sentence above quoted that, although Mr. Adams had not distinctly asserted that the gentlemen named in the "Republican's" commentary were those engaged in an attempt to dissolve the Union, there was

* The "American Traveller," then neutral in politics.

a distinct assertion that the leaders were so engaged, and that the insertion of the names of those leaders was not unfair. Upon the second sentence the Court held that it did not charge Mr. Webster with being a traitor, but that Mr. Adams had called him one; and upon the third sentence, why Mr. Adams had always met in friendly intercourse the men whose names he had placed upon a secret record as traitors to their country, that the true effect and purport of the "Republican's" comment, and the sense in which it would be taken by intelligent readers, was to show the extreme injustice of Mr. Adams's accusation against the Federal party.

The jury were out but two hours and a half, when the foreman reported that they could not agree. Chief Justice Parker at once dismissed them, doubtless glad that he could in this way terminate an action which, as he had plainly intimated from the bench, should never have been brought into court. Throughout the trial eager crowds filled the heated court room, yet it is related of the Solicitor-General that, in closing for the government, he stood wrapped in his heavy cloak in the very centre of the room, and addressed the jury for three long hours.

Mr. Webster doubtless soon saw that he had been hasty and overbearing at the outset, had been perhaps persuaded to take offence where none was intended, and, by seeking the grand jury and contemptuously refusing to have any communication with the writer of the article after his name had been promptly furnished him, had forfeited any opportunity for the somewhat superfluous explanation of the "Republican's" commentary his friends desired. We get a side light upon his own feelings after the result of the trial in President Adams's Diary. Under date of 26th January, 1829, just a month later, Mr. Adams writes: —

"Mr. Clay said he had mentioned to Mr. Webster Lyman's libel and my publication of 21st October, that Webster seemed to have no unfriendly feeling to me, but that he seemed to regret his having prosecuted Lyman."

A few years later, as Colonel Lyman informs me, Mr. Webster and his father "made it up together," and continued afterward on friendly terms. A very full report of the trial was published at the time by the printers of the "Jackson Republican," passing, such was the demand for it, to a second edition. It is now, however, rarely found. *

* See below, p. 323. — Eds.

The business of the Annual Meeting was then taken up. The reports of the Council, of the Librarian, and of the Cabinet-keeper were presented by these officers. The Treasurer's report, with that of the Auditing Committee annexed, was presented in print. These reports were severally accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Proceedings. They here follow:—

Report of the Council.

Although the various reports submitted by its officers to-day show the Society to be at the close of another year in a condition of great material prosperity, there has yet rarely been a year, if indeed there has ever been one, in which the Society has been so often called to mourn the death of a member. Eleven of our Resident Members, Hon. Charles Hudson, Charles W. Tuttle, Hon. Seth Ames, Dr. Samuel F. Haven, Rev. William Newell, Hon. John A. Lowell, Hon. Solomon Lincoln, Hon. Richard H. Dana, Delano A. Goddard, at his death Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council, Hon. Alexander H. Bullock, and Professor Henry W. Longfellow, have died during the year. All of them were honored in their lives of useful service and achievement, two of them gained a brilliant and enduring reputation in literature, while the name of the last of these two has been for more than a generation a household word, wherever people who speak our mother tongue are gathered together. The year's death-roll also contains the names of four of our Corresponding Members: Mr. John Winter Jones, late Principal Librarian of the British Museum, Dr. J. G. Holland, Rev. Leonard Bacon, and Hon. Zachariah Allen, President of the Rhode Island Historical Society. Three also of our Honorary Members have passed away within the year: Hon. Hugh Blair Grigsby, President of the Virginia Historical Society, who was always keenly interested in our proceedings, John Hill Burton, the historian of Scotland, and Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Dean of Westminster.

Ten Resident Members have been elected during the year: Hon. Samuel C. Cobb, Horace E. Scudder, Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, Stephen Salisbury, Jr., John T. Hassam, Rev. Alexander McKenzie, John C. Phillips, Arthur Lord, Arthur B. Ellis, and Hon. Henry Morris. The Society has chosen five Corresponding Members: Rev. Henry M. Baird, Colonel Henry B. Carrington, William Wirt Henry, Comte d'Haussonville, Prof. William F. Allen; and two Honorary Members: Hon.

E. B. Washburne, and Professor John R. Seeley, of Cambridge, England.

During the year the Society has published the Eighteenth Volume of Proceedings, and has reprinted both volumes of the Sewall Diary, both volumes of the Belknap Papers, the first editions of each of which were exhausted, and it issues to-day the third volume of the Sewall Papers.

Our faithful Treasurer, who has the sympathy of all of us in the mournful bereavement which makes his chair vacant to-day,* gives a most satisfactory report of the Society's financial condition. Six thousand dollars of the mortgage debt has been paid within the year, and the mortgage has been continued by agreement for five years at five per cent per annum. At the expiration of this time the Society will own its building nearly free of debt, and derive a substantial income from its rental.

Several events of great interest to the Society have occurred within the year. Our distinguished President, who intends to pass the summer abroad, took leave of the members a month ago. He carries with him across the ocean the affectionate regards of his associates, and their warmest wishes for his happiness and safe return.

Twice within the year, upon occasions of permanent historical interest, Mr. Winthrop has appeared in turn before the Commonwealth and the Nation as the orator of the day.

On the 17th of June last, at Bunker Hill, Mr. Winthrop delivered the oration at the unveiling of the statue of Colonel Prescott, in the presence of the descendants of the patriot, and of a great audience who had gathered for the occasion.

On the 19th of October the Centennial Anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis was celebrated at Yorktown in the presence of the Cabinet, the governors of thirteen States, many high officers, civil and military, and a large gathering from all sections of the country.

France and Germany accepted the nation's invitation to unite in the celebration, and each country sent delegations in commemoration of the signal aid furnished by the French and German officers who served in the Continental armies, and of the allied forces engaged in the capture of Yorktown. The

* Walter Allen Smith, only son of the Treasurer, died in London, April 8th. He was born in Boston, Dec. 25, 1859, graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1880, and immediately afterward went abroad to continue his studies in Germany and France. He had completed his proposed course, and was on his way home, when he was suddenly taken ill at the house of a friend in London. He was a young man of great promise.

key-note of the anniversary, so well given by Mr. Winthrop in his oration, was most happily responded to by the President, who, in a general order memorable for its dignity and the grace of its allusions, commanded the flag of the mother country to be saluted by the army and navy of the United States at the conclusion of the ceremonies.

Copies of both of these eloquent and spirited orations, gifts from Mr. Winthrop, lie upon the table.

By an interesting coincidence, well worthy to be recalled here, the orations which commemorate the centennial anniversaries of the opening and closing struggles of the Revolution were each of them productions of our Resident Members. Mr. Dana, who was the orator at Lexington seven years ago, and whose death within the last few weeks came so suddenly upon us, had long been, like Mr. Winthrop, a member of our Society.

At the request of a large number of citizens, Mr. Winthrop, before sailing for England, gave sittings for a full-length portrait, which it is the intention of the subscribers to present to Congress, for preservation upon the walls of the Capitol.

The Society has also enjoyed the further honor of seeing its Librarian, so long and so closely identified with its deliberations, elected to the honorable office of Mayor of Boston.

The Society has received from members within the year, as part of their recent productions, twenty-three pamphlets, of which seven are reprints from our Proceedings. It has also received from its Corresponding and Honorary Members copies of their own contributions to literature published since the last Annual Meeting. Among the volumes received may be mentioned, in the order in which they have come to us, "The Army under Pope," by Mr. Ropes, soon followed by another from his pen entitled, "Who Lost Waterloo?"; from Dr. Dexter, "The True Story of John Smyth, the Se-Baptist"; from Mr. A. B. Ellis the "History of the First Church"; from Mr. Foote the first volume of his "Annals of King's Chapel"; from Mr. Seudder two volumes, "Noah Webster," in the series of American Men of Letters, and "Boston Town"; "The Antietam and Fredericksburg," by General Francis W. Palfrey; Mr. Slafter's "History and Causes of Incorrect Latitudes"; Mr. Hassam's "Antiquarian and Genealogical Papers"; Mr. Sibley's second volume of "Harvard Graduates," covering the period from 1659 to 1677; Mr. Lodge's "History of the English Colonies in America"; Dr. Green's "History of Medicine in Massa-

chusetts"; and Mr. Trumbull's "Indian Names in Connecticut."

To this list may also be added, as the result of the excellent work done by two others of our number, Messrs. Whitmore and Appleton, the Record Commissioners, the publication of their seventh volume, which includes all the records of the Town of Boston from March 11, 1660-61 to March 10, 1700-1.

Under a vote of the City Council, they have also caused a new and revised edition of their Second Report to be reprinted, containing the Boston Records of 1634-60, and the Book of Possessions.

It is twenty-one years this week since the attack on Fort Sumter. The great rebellion of the Southern States is now more remote than was the struggle of the Colonies for independence when our own Society was formed. The time is already ripe for permanent histories of the great operations in the late contest, and abundant material for their preparation may be found upon our shelves. Two members of the Society, General F. W. Palfrey and Mr. Ropes, have each ably reviewed within the year some of the more important campaigns of the army of the Potomac.

Two volumes have also appeared in the valuable series of American Biographies, projected by Mr. Morse. His own independent, forceful, and most spirited "Life of John Quincy Adams" has been followed by Mr. Lodge's admirable memoir of Alexander Hamilton, now just issued from the press.

The third and fourth volumes of the "Memorial History of Boston" have been published. The speedy completion of this work, to which our members so largely contributed, is due to the unwearied efforts of its editor, Mr. Winsor, our Corresponding Secretary.

Three vacancies now exist in the list of our immediate members.

In conclusion, the Executive Committee have only to congratulate the Society upon the excellent record of work done within the past year. As much of it has come from the pens of the younger members, we may well be content, to-day, with the gratifying outlook for the Society's future success in the fields of its labor.

GEORGE B. CHASE, *Chairman.*

Boston, April 13, 1882.

Report of the Librarian.

The Librarian has the honor to submit his Annual Report. There have been added to the Library during the year: —

Books	719
Pamphlets	3,819
Unbound volumes of newspapers	7
Bound volumes of maps	2
Maps	14
Broadsides	3
Volume of manuscripts	1
Manuscripts	102
<hr/>	
In all	4,667

Of the books added, 633 have been given, 79 have been bought, and 7 obtained by exchange. Of the pamphlets added, 3,597 have been given, 122 have been bought, and 100 have been received by exchange.

There are now in the Library, it is estimated, about 27,770 volumes; including files of bound newspapers, the bound manuscripts, and the Dowse collection. The number of pamphlets is about 59,600.

Mr. Amos A. Lawrence has added 20 volumes, 32 pamphlets, and 10 newspapers, relating to the Great Rebellion.

There have been bought, with the income of the Savage Fund, 79 volumes, 122 pamphlets, 2 volumes of maps, and 1 single map.

During the year 140 books and 10 pamphlets have been taken from the Library, and all have been returned.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. GREEN, *Librarian.*

Boston, April 13, 1882.

Report of the Cabinet-keeper.

During the past year there have been 22 donations to the Cabinet, all of which were duly noticed and recorded at or near the time of presentation.

It was hoped that the Catalogue, begun more than a year ago, would have made such progress that some portion of it could be included in the present Report; but the work is a laborious one, and still further time will be required for its completion.

The smaller engravings belonging to the Cabinet have been, for better preservation, transferred to volumes; and the Paper currency, Provincial and Revolutionary, of which there are not far from 400 specimens, has been arranged in chronological order in a separate volume.

With regard to the Cabinet generally, as has been stated in former reports, there is still an insufficiency of room for its proper display; an inconvenience, however, which will doubtless be obviated at some future time. In the mean time it is possible that something may be done even in our limited quarters to afford it more light and space, and thus give it greater attractiveness and utility.

F. E. OLIVER, *Cabinet-keeper.*

Boston, April 13, 1882.

Report of the Treasurer.

In compliance with the requirements of the By-laws, Chapter VII., Article 1, the Treasurer respectfully submits his Annual Report made up to March 31, 1882.

A further reduction of the mortgage debt of the Society has been effected during the year by the payment of \$6,000, in accordance with the agreement made by the late Treasurer when the mortgage note was renewed. Arrangements have been also made for the continuance of the mortgage for a further term of five years, at the rate of five per cent per annum, and with the same right to make partial payments which we now have.

By the sale of a controlling interest in the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Company, — in which sale the Treasurer in behalf of the Society joined, — a re-investment of a part of the Savage Fund became necessary, and the principal of that very useful fund as it stands on the books was increased to \$5,295; and there will be an increase in the income, which is, however, insufficient for the legitimate demands made on it.

The last of the life interests to which it was subject having recently terminated, the Treasurer has been informally notified that the bequest of the late William Winthrop will be paid over within the next three months. Mr. Winthrop, who was for many years a Corresponding Member of the Society, died abroad in July, 1869, and his bequest, which amounts to \$3,000, was given for the creation of a Binding Fund.

The funds held by the Treasurer are the following: —

I. THE APPLETON FUND, created Nov. 18, 1854, by the gift to the Society, from the executors of the will of the late Samuel Appleton, of stocks of the appraised value of ten thousand dollars. These stocks were subsequently sold for \$12,203, at which sum the fund now stands. Interest, at the rate of six per cent per annum, is computed on that amount, and is chargeable on the real estate. The income is applicable to "the procuring, preserving, preparation, and publication of historical papers." As the income was largely anticipated some years ago, only a comparatively small sum will be available from this source during the next year.

II. THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND, which now stands, with the accumulated income, at \$9,582.90, and, by a vote passed June 14, 1877, is to be allowed to increase until the principal and interest amount to ten thousand dollars. This fund originated in a gift of two thousand dollars from the late Hon. David Sears, presented Oct. 15, 1855, and accepted by the Society, Nov. 8, 1855; and Dec. 26, 1866, it was increased by a gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. Sears, and another of the same amount from Mr. Nathaniel Thayer. The income can be appropriated only in accordance with the directions in Mr. Sears's declaration of trust in the printed Proceedings for November, 1855. Both the principal and the accumulated income, computed at the rate of six per cent per annum, are chargeable on the real estate of the Society. The limit to the accumulation of the income will be reached during the next year, and the Treasurer accordingly recommends that the excess of income over the sum of ten thousand dollars be appropriated toward the publication of the Pickering manuscripts.

III. THE DOWSE FUND, which was given to the Society by the executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse, April 9, 1857, for the "safe keeping" of the Dowse Library. It amounts to \$10,000, and is a charge on the real estate.

IV. THE PEABODY FUND, presented by the late George Peabody, in a letter dated Jan. 1, 1867, and now amounting to \$22,123. It is invested in the seven per cent bonds of the Boston and Albany Railroad Co., and a deposit in the Suffolk Savings Bank, and the income is only available for the publication and illustration of the Society's Proceedings and Memoirs, and for the preservation of the Society's Historical Portraits.

V. THE SAVAGE FUND, a bequest from the late Hon. James Savage, received in June, 1873, and now standing on the books at the sum of \$5,295. It is invested in the bonds

of the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Co., and in the stock of the Boston Gas-Light Co. The income is to be used for the increase of the Society's Library.

VI. THE ERASTUS B. BIGELOW FUND, received in February, 1881. The original sum was one thousand dollars; but the interest up to this date having been added to the principal, it now stands at \$1,068.50. There is no restriction as to the use to be made of this fund.

VII. THE GENERAL FUND, now amounting to \$3,550, which sum represents a legacy of two thousand dollars from the late Henry Harris, received in July, 1867, a legacy of one thousand dollars from the late George Bemis, received in March, 1879, three commutation fees of one hundred and fifty dollars each, and a gift of one hundred dollars from R. W. Emerson. It is invested in a bond of the Quincy and Palmyra Railroad Co., for one thousand dollars, and a bond of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Co., also for one thousand dollars; and fifteen hundred and fifty dollars have been paid from it toward the reduction of the mortgage debt.

The following abstracts and the trial balance show the present condition of the several accounts:—

CASH ACCOUNT.

DEBITS.

1881.		
March 31.	To balance on hand	\$1,545.24
1882.		
March 31.	To receipts as follows:—	
	General Account	10,774.16
	Income of Peabody Fund	1,470.00
	Income of Savage Fund	341.00
	General Fund	400.00
		<u>\$14,530.40</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$703.02

CREDITS.

1882.		
March 31.	By payments as follows:—	
	Reduction of mortgage debt	\$6,000.00
	Income of Peabody Fund	1,054.93
	Income of Savage Fund	363.83
	Income of Appleton Fund	281.84
	General Account	6,126.78
	By balance on hand	703.02
		<u>\$14,530.40</u>

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

DEBITS.

1882.			
March 31.	To sundry payments:—		
	J. A. Henshaw, salary	\$1,200.00	
	J. H. Tuttle, salary	1,000.00	
	Interest on mortgage	2,400.00	
	Part of cost of Sewall Papers, Vol. III.	300.00	
	Printing, stationery, and postage	408.78	
	Fuel and light	237.80	
	Binding	7.75	
	Repairs	13.08	
	Care of fire, &c.	397.00	
	Miscellaneous expenses	164.37	
	Income of Appleton Fund	732.18	
	Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	542.43	
	Income of Dowse Fund	600.00	
	Income of E. B. Bigelow Fund	68.50	
	Sinking Fund	2,000.00	
	To balance to new account	3,359.66	
			<u>\$13,429.55</u>

CREDITS.

1881.			
March 31.	By balance on hand	\$2,055.39	
1882.			
March 31.	By sundry receipts:—		
	Rent of Building	9,000.00	
	Income of General Fund	160.00	
	Interest	78.01	
	Income of Dowse Fund	600.00	
	Admission Fees	175.00	
	Assessments	890.00	
	Sales of publications	471.15	
			<u>\$13,429.55</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$3,359.66	

Income of Appleton Fund.

DEBITS.

1881.			
March 31.	To balance against the account	\$730.78	
1882.			
March 31.	„ printing and binding Belknap Papers	281.84	
			<u>\$1,012.62</u>
1882.			
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$280.44	

CREDITS.

1882.			
March 31.	By one year's interest on \$12,203 principal	\$732.18	
	„ balance carried forward	280.44	
			<u>\$1,012.62</u>

Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund.

DEBITS.

1882.		
March 31.	To amount carried to new account	\$6,582.90

CREDITS.

1881.		
March 31.	By amount brought forward	\$6,040.47
Sept. 1.	„ one year's interest on \$3,000 principal	180.00
	„ one year's interest on accrued interest	362.43
		<u>\$6,582.90</u>

1882.		
March 31.	By amount brought down	\$6,582.90

Income of Dowse Fund.

DEBITS.

1882.		
March 31.	To amount placed to credit of General Account	\$600.00

CREDITS.

1882.		
March 31.	By one year's interest on \$10,000 principal	\$600.00

Income of Peabody Fund.

DEBITS.

1881.		
March 31.	To balance brought forward	\$743.29
1882.		
March 31.	„ amount paid for copying, printing, and binding	1,054.93
		<u>\$1,798.22</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$328.22

CREDITS.

1882.		
March 31.	By one year's interest on railroad bonds	\$1,470.00
	„ balance to new account	328.22
		<u>\$1,798.22</u>

Income of Savage Fund.

DEBITS.

1881.		
March 31.	To balance brought forward	\$76.55
1882.		
March 31.	To amount paid for books	363.83
		<u>\$440.38</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$99.38

1882.

CREDITS.

March 31.	By three quarterly dividends on gas shares	\$37.50
	„ one year's interest on railroad bonds	300.00
	„ difference in market value of investments	3.50
	„ balance to new account	99.38
		<u>\$440.38</u>

Sinking Fund.

1882.

DEBITS.

Jan. 17.	To amount applied to reduction of mortgage	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
----------	--	-------------------

1881.

CREDITS.

Oct. 1.	By amount transferred from the General Account	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
---------	--	-------------------

TRIAL BALANCE.

DEBITS.

Cash	\$703.02
Real Estate	103,280.19
Investments	40,568.00
Income of Appleton Fund	280.44
Income of Savage Fund	99.38
Income of Peabody Fund	328.22
	<u>\$145,259.25</u>

CREDITS.

Notes Payable	\$33,000.00
Building Account	45,077.19
Appleton Fund	12,203.00
Dowse Fund	10,000.00
Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	3,000.00
Peabody Fund	22,123.00
Savage Fund	5,295.00
Erastus B. Bigelow Fund	1,068.50
General Fund	3,550.00
Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	6,582.90
General Account	3,359.66
	<u>\$145,259.25</u>

The real estate is subject to the following incumbrances,—the balance of the mortgage note (\$33,000), the principal of the Appleton Fund (\$12,203), of the Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund (\$3,000), of the Dowse Fund (\$10,000), and of the Erastus B. Bigelow Fund (\$1,068.50), a part of the principal of the General Fund (\$1,550), and the accumu-

lated income of the Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund (\$6,582.90), making in the aggregate, \$67,404.40, against \$71,393.47 last year.

CHARLES C. SMITH,
Treasurer.

Boston, March 31, 1882.

Report of the Auditing Committee.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, as made up to March 31, 1882, have attended to their duty, and report that they find them correctly kept and properly vouched; that the securities held by him for the several funds correspond with the statement in his Annual Report; that the balance of cash on hand is satisfactorily accounted for; and that the Trial Balance is accurately taken from the Ledger.

GEORGE B. CHASE, }
THEODORE LYMAN, } *Committee.*

Boston, April 11, 1882.

Mr. CHASE, from the Committee to nominate a list of officers for the ensuing year, reported the following list, and the gentlemen named were duly elected: —

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. BOSTON.

Vice-Presidents.

REV. GEORGE E. ELLIS, D.D. BOSTON.

CHARLES DEANE, LL.D. CAMBRIDGE.

Recording Secretary.

GEORGE DEXTER, A.M. CAMBRIDGE.

Corresponding Secretary.

JUSTIN WINSOR, A.B. CAMBRIDGE.

Treasurer.

CHARLES C. SMITH, Esq. BOSTON.

Librarian.

SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D. BOSTON.

Cabinet-keeper.

FITCH EDWARD OLIVER, M.D. BOSTON.

Executive Committee of the Council.

HENRY CABOT LODGE, PH.D.	. . . . .	NAHANT.
REV. PHILLIPS BROOKS, D.D.	. . . . .	BOSTON.
HENRY W. HAYNES, A.M.	. . . . .	BOSTON.
CHARLES F. ADAMS, JR., A.B.	. . . . .	QUINCY.
J. ELLIOT CABOT, LL.B.	. . . . .	BROOKLINE.

The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. George B. Chase, the retiring member of the Executive Committee of the Council.